



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/786,301	02/26/2004	Richard E. Huber	2414-53	3442

23117 7590 06/28/2006

NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

EXAMINER

TRAN, TRANG U

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2622

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8, 11-15, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipate by McKay (US Publication No. 2002/0078459 A1).

In considering claim 1, McKay discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed a television assembly comprising a housing and a secured to said housing, said screen assembly including: a front screen panel having a front face and a rear face, said front face being parallel to said rear face is met by plasma display screen 62 (Figs. 3 and 6A, page 5, [0044]-[0046] and page 6, [0054]), 2) the claimed an opaque masking layer applied to a perimeter of at least one of said front and rear faces of said front screen panel so as to define a masked perimeter area framing a viewable area of said screen assembly is met by the system bezel (Fig. 6A, page 6, [0054]), and 3) the claimed at least one touch control operatively coupled to at least one of said front and rear faces of said front screen panel in said masked perimeter area is met by the set of hard-wired inputs as button 64, may optionally be located on the system bezel and

Art Unit: 2622

provide a user input path in addition to the system's touch screen (Fig. 6A, page 6, [0054]).

In considering claim 2, the claimed wherein said at least one touch control operatively coupled to said front screen panel comprises a touch sensor attached to the rear face of the front screen panel is met by the touch screen 20 and the set of hard-wired inputs as button 64, may optionally be located on the system bezel and provide a user input path in addition to the system's touch screen (Figs. 3 and 6A, page 5, [0044]-[0046] and page 6, [0054]).

In considering claim 4, the claimed comprising indicia identifying at least one of a location and a function of said at least one touch screen control provided on at least one of said front and rear faces of said front screen panel and visible from a front of said screen assembly is met by the touch screen 20 and the set of hard-wired inputs as button 64, may optionally be located on the system bezel and provide a user input path in addition to the system's touch screen (Figs. 6A, 8-10, page 6, [0054] and page 7, [0063] to page 9, [0074]).

In considering claim 5, the claimed wherein said indicia comprises at least one of text and artwork indicating the location and function of the touch control is met by the touch screen 20 and the set of hard-wired inputs as button 64, may optionally be located on the system bezel and provide a user input path in addition to the system's touch screen (Figs. 6A, 8-10, page 6, [0054] and page 7, [0063] to page 9, [0074]).

In considering claim 8, the claimed wherein the front screen panel is formed from glass is met by the plasma display panel 18 (Fig. 2, page 4, [0041]-[0042]).

In considering claim 11, the claimed wherein the front screen panel is flat is met by the flat screen, plasma-type display 18 (Fig. 2, page 4, [0040]).

In considering claim 12, the claimed wherein said front face is substantially coextensive to said rear face is met by the plasma display panel 18 (Fig. 3, page 4, [0041]-[0042]).

In considering claim 13, the claimed wherein the television assembly is one of a plasma television, an LCD television, and a projection television is met by the flat screen, plasma-type display 18 (Fig. 2, page 4, [0040]).

Claim 14 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claims 1 and 11 above.

Claim 15 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 2 above.

Claim 18 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 8 above.

Claim 20 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 4 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 10 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (US Publication No. 2002/0078459 A1).

In considering claim 3, McKay discloses all the limitations of the instant invention as discussed in claims 1 and 2 above, except for providing the claimed wherein said

Art Unit: 2622

touch sensor is adhesively attached. The capability of using touch sensor is adhesively attached is old and well known in the art. Therefore, the Official Notice is taken.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the old and well known using of touch sensor is adhesively attached into McKay's system in order to secure the touch sensor on the display device.

In considering claim 10, McKay discloses all the limitations of the instant invention as discussed in claim 1 above, except for providing the claimed wherein said front screen panel has a length and width greater than a length and width of said housing so that said front screen panel projects beyond said housing. The capability of using front screen panel has a length and width greater than a length and width of said housing so that said front screen panel projects beyond said housing is old and well known in the art. Therefore, the Official Notice is taken. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the old and well known using of front screen panel has a length and width greater than a length and width of said housing so that said front screen panel projects beyond said housing into McKay's system in order to secure the front screen panel on the display housing.

Claim 16 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 3 above.

5. Claims 6-7 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (US Publication No. 2002/0078459 A1) in view of Ananian (US Patent No. 4,907,090).

In considering claim 6, McKay discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed wherein said indicia is provided on said rear face prior to applying said

Art Unit: 2622

masking layer is met by the touch screen 20 and the set of hard-wired inputs as button 64, may optionally be located on the system bezel and provide a user input path in addition to the system's touch screen (Figs. 6A, 8-10, page 6, [0054] and page 7, [0063] to page 9, [0074]). However, McKay explicitly does not disclose the claimed wherein said masking layer is applied to said rear face of said front screen panel. Ananian teaches that referring more particularly to Figs. 3 and 4, in the preferred embodiment the peripheral portion of the planar element 12 is provided with a border 14 formed on its rear surface which is preferably formed by an opaque coating, such as black paint (Figs. 3 and 4, col. 2, line 62 to col. 3, line 17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the border formed as taught by Ananian into McKay's system in order to prevent accidental contact with the screen during use.

In considering claim 7, McKay discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed the touch sensor attached to said rear face after applying said masking layer is met by the touch screen 20 and the set of hard-wired inputs as button 64, may optionally be located on the system bezel and provide a user input path in addition to the system's touch screen (Figs. 3 and 6A, page 5, [0044]-[0046] and page 6, [0054]). However, McKay explicitly does not disclose the claimed wherein said masking layer is applied to said rear face of said front screen panel. Ananian teaches that referring more particularly to Figs. 3 and 4, in the preferred embodiment the peripheral portion of the planar element 12 is provided with a border 14 formed on its rear surface which is preferably formed by an opaque coating, such as black paint (Figs. 3 and 4, col. 2, line

Art Unit: 2622

62 to col. 3, line 17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the border formed as taught by Ananian into McKay's system in order to prevent accidental contact with the screen during use.

Claim 17 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 7 above.

6. Claims 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (US Publication No. 2002/0078459 A1) in view of Scheve (US Patent No. 4,715,137).

In considering claim 9, McKay discloses all the limitations of the instant invention as discussed in claim 1 above, except for providing the claimed wherein said masking layer is silk screened to a perimeter of the rear face of the front screen panel to define said masked perimeter area. Scheve teaches that a clear protective coating may be silk-screened or sprayed over the back surface 16, after the image 32 has been applied, the light-transmitting member 12 may be encased in the clear shroud 30 and installed over the light source 22, which is directed toward an edge 20 of the light-transmitting member 12 (Figs. 1-4, col. 2, line 60 to col. 3, line 65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the silk screen as taught by Scheve into McKay's system in order to improve the brightness of the displayed video signal.

Claim 19 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 9 above.

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2622

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ananian et al. (US Patent No. 6,377,320 B1) disclose size-adjustable mountin frame for television screen protector.

Kawaguchi et al (US Patent No. 5,293,244) disclose rear projection type television.

Kita et al. (US Patent No. 5,592,241) disclose attachable protective screen for image display device and installation method therefor.

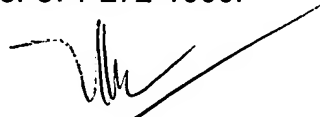
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trang U. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7358. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM, Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TT
June 25, 2006



Trang U. Tran
Examiner
Art Unit 2622